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## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of converting differentiated non-hormone producing pancreatic cells into differentiated hormone-producing cells, comprising:

a) culturing said differentiated non-hormone producing pancreatic cells in a first cell culture system with a first cell culture medium comprising a basal medium, with or without serum, and with or without growth factors;

under conditions which provide for converting said differentiated non-hormone producing pancreatic cells into stem cells; and

b) culturing said stem cells in a second cell culture system with a second cell culture medium

comprising at least one compound selected from Group A, wherein the compounds of Group A are selected from the group consisting of:

Betacellulin, Activin A, BMP-2, TGF-β SRII, DMSO, Sonic Hedgehog, Laminin, Met-Enkephalin, DMF, and Cholera Toxin A;

and at least one compound selected from Group B, wherein the compounds of Group B are selected from the group consisting of:

Activin A, Atrial Natriuretic Peptide, Betacellulin, Bone Morphogenic Protein (BMP-2), Bone Morphogenic Protein (BMP-4), C natriuretic peptide (CNP), Caerulein, Calcitonin Gene Related Peptide (CGRP-α), Cholecystokinin (CCK8-amide), Cholecystokinin octapeptide (CCK8-sulfated), Cholera Toxin B Subunit, Corticosterone (Reichstein's substance H), Dexamethasone, DIF-1, Differanisole A, Dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO), EGF, Endothelin 1, Exendin 4, FGF acidic, FGF2, FGF7, FGFb, Gastrin I, Gastrin Releasing Peptide (GRP), Glucagon-Like Peptide 1 (GLP-1), Glucose, Growth Hormone, Hepatocyte Growth Factor (HGF), IGF-1, IGF-2, Insulin, KGF, Lactogen, Laminin, Leu-

Enkephalin, Leukemia Inhibitory Factor (LIF), Met-Enkephalin, n Butyric Acid, Nerve Growth Factor (β-NGF), Nicotinamide, n-n-dimethylformamide (DMF), Parathyroid Hormone Related Peptide (Pth II RP), PDGF AA + PDGF BB MIX, PIGF (Placental GF), Progesterone, Prolactin, Putrescine Dihydrochloride Gamma-Irradiated Cell Culture, REG1, Retinoic Acid, Selenium, Selenious Acid, Sonic Hedgehog, Soybean Trypsin Inhibitor, Substance P, Superoxide Dismutase (SOD), TGF-α, TGF-β sRII, TGF-β1, transferrin, Triiodothyronine (T3), Trolox, Vasoactive Intestinal Peptide (VIP), VEGF, Vitamin A, and Vitamin E;

under conditions which provide for differentiating said stem cells into hormone-producing cells.

- 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the second cell culture medium comprises at least two compounds selected from Group A and at least two compounds selected from Group B.
- 3. The method of Claim 1, wherein the second cell culture medium comprises at least three compounds selected from Group A and at least three compounds selected from Group B.
- 4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the second cell culture medium comprises at least four compounds selected from Group A and at least four compounds selected from Group B.
- 5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the second cell culture medium comprises at least five compounds selected from Group A and at least five compounds selected from Group B.
- 6. The method of Claim 1, wherein the second cell culture medium comprises at least six compounds selected from Group A and at least six compounds selected from Group B.
- 7. A method of culturing stem cells into differentiated hormone-producing cells, comprising culturing the stem cells in a cell culture system with a cell culture medium whereby said stem cells are differentiated into hormone-producing cells wherein said culture medium comprises

basal medium without serum and at least one compound selected from Group A wherein the compounds of Group A are selected from the group consisting of: Betacellulin, Activin A, BMP-2, TGF-β SRII, DMSO, Sonic Hedgehog, Laminin, Met-Enkephalin, DMF, and Cholera Toxin A;

and at least one compound selected from Group B, wherein the compounds of Group B are selected from the group consisting of: Activin A, Atrial Natriuretic Peptide, Betacellulin, Bone Morphogenic Protein (BMP-2), Bone Morphogenic Protein (BMP-4), C natriuretic peptide (CNP), Caerulein, Calcitonin Gene Related Peptide (CGRP-α), Cholecystokinin (CCK8-amide), Cholecystokinin octapeptide (CCK8-sulfated), Cholera Toxin B Subunit, Corticosterone (Reichstein's substance H), Dexamethasone, DIF-1, Differanisole A, Dimethylsulfoxide (DMSO), EGF, Endothelin 1, Exendin 4, FGF acidic, FGF2, FGF7, FGFb, Gastrin I, Gastrin Releasing Peptide (GRP), Glucagon-Like Peptide 1 (GLP-1), Glucose, Growth Hormone, Hepatocyte Growth Factor (HGF), IGF-1, IGF-2, Insulin, KGF, Lactogen, Laminin, Leu-Enkephalin, Leukemia Inhibitory Factor (LIF), Met-Enkephalin, n Butyric Acid, Nerve Growth Factor (β-NGF), Nicotinamide, n-n-dimethylformamide (DMF), Parathyroid Hormone Related Peptide (Pth II RP), PDGF AA + PDGF BB MIX, PIGF (Placental GF), Progesterone, Prolactin, Putrescine Dihydrochloride Gamma-Irradiated Cell Culture, REG1, Retinoic Acid, Selenium, Selenious Acid, Sonic Hedgehog, Soybean Trypsin Inhibitor, Substance P, Superoxide Dismutase (SOD), TGF-α, TGF-β sRII, TGF-β1, transferrin, Triiodothyronine (T3), Trolox, Vasoactive Intestinal Peptide (VIP), VEGF, Vitamin A, and Vitamin E.

- 8. The method of Claim 7, wherein the cell culture medium comprises at least two compounds selected from Group A and at least two compounds selected from Group B.
- 9. The method of Claim 7, wherein the cell culture medium comprises at least three compounds selected from Group A and at least three compounds selected from Group B.
- 10. The method of Claim 7, wherein the cell culture medium comprises at least four compounds selected from Group A and at least four compounds selected from Group B.

- 11. The method of Claim 7, wherein the cell culture medium comprises at least five compounds selected from Group A and at least five compounds selected from Group B.
- 12. The method of Claim 7, wherein the cell culture medium comprises at least six compounds selected from Group A and at least six compounds selected from Group B.